In practice, services can be broadly categorized into two types of service – updates and authorizations.

Authorization services usually have two outgoing flows from their service – an accept and a reject flow. The reject flow is never part of the expected path, and is recognized as a special type of flow as a convenient idiom of the system. Hence, any reject flows are automatically excluded from planning the expected path.

Update services usually flow into an authorization service, or are routed to the next service along a conditional flow based either on values obtained during updating, or the state of the planning information about that service.

Services can route themselves through the workflow within a process based on conditional information. The default routing is always to keep following, or attempt to join, the expected path along the current set of base-lined services unless the current path, or a specified condition, prevents this.

Action items provide the means to activate or re-plan services. All the members assigned to the processing team whose role matches the entry criteria for a service are provided an action item on the calendar if it is part of the current agenda. The current agenda comprises all the services in a process thread which can be activated as the next step. The action item can indicate if the service has strayed from the base-line in the work flow, or if the service has already, or is estimated to have, strayed from the original schedule of dates calculated from the original or revised base-line.

Services can be activated by any process team member who belongs to a role that matches the service's entry criteria. Once activated, only the activator can process that service until it is completed, or cancelled. Activated services atomically exclude other team members from processing the same action item at the same time.

*Task*